

This is from a new survey by the Pew Research Center for the people and the press. In contrast to harsh criticism often heard from U.S. bashers, both here and internationally, this survey of 66,000 people in 44 countries over 2 years reveals that the majority demonstrates strong preferences in seeing democratic governments formed in Muslim countries. Also majorities in 33 of the these 44 countries believe people live better in a free market, even if it leads to wealth and income disparities.

According to this survey: "This is not to say that they accept democracy and capitalism without qualification, or that they are not concerned about many of the problems of modern life. By and large, however, the people of the world accept the concept and values that underlie the American approach to governance and business." This is also good news for the people of Iraq.

FUND CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Mr. RYAN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask this Congress to fund the child tax credit. For 6 million families, it would only cost \$3.5 billion. We have the \$3.5 billion, but we want to give it to the top 1 percent. All we would have to do is take the top tax bracket and instead of cutting it down to 35 percent, cut it down to 35.3 percent, and we would have enough money to give the child tax credit to working families, single parents with children, single mothers trying to raise their children.

Mr. Speaker, we have enough time in this Congress to honor Sammy Sosa and his corked bat, but we do not have enough time to honor the children in single families in this Congress.

HONORING TEXAS TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to spotlight several distinguished teachers from the Third Congressional District of Texas.

Great teachers nurture our country's best hope for tomorrow, our children. Children may be a fraction of our society, but they are 100 percent of our future. These educators go beyond the call of duty and selflessly make our children better and make Texas a better place to live.

These are the teachers of the year from the third district: from Allen, Texas, Nancy Jung and Joyce Carson; from Garland, Michael Robertson; from McKinney, Sharon Guynes and Betty Rutledge; from Plano, Marilyn Caruthers and Roxanne Burchfiel; from

Princeton, Janice Bohannon and Diane Talley; from Richardson, Lisa Cunningham and Rick Urbanczyk; and from Wylie, Doug Grether.

It is outstanding teachers like these who strive for excellence and make a difference in the lives of our children. They are heroes for our children, for America, for our freedom, for our future. God bless all of them. I salute our teachers all over the country.

MIDDLE-INCOME TAXPAYERS WILL PAY GREATER SHARE OF FEDERAL TAXES

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, two stories today in the papers tell it all. One, "Delay Rebuffs Move to Restore Lost Tax Credit," a credit for 6.5 million low-income families. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) says, "There are a lot of other things that are more important than that."

The second story, the headline is, "Middle Class Tax Share Set to Rise," and it says that as a result of three successive tax cuts of the Bush administration, middle-income taxpayers will be paying a greater share of all Federal taxes by the end of the decade.

When we raise these issues, the majority here likes to say it is class warfare. There is class warfare against middle- and low-income families under the Republican majority rule. We ask this question to taxpayers of America, Whose side are you on? It is clear the Republicans are on the side, as said in the paper, of Americans who earn \$337,000 or more per year.

SUPPORTING AMERICA'S CHILDREN

(Mr. BURNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of America's children. Since January 7, the 108th Congress has acted on a number of bold initiatives to secure the future of all children. We have successfully passed legislation to protect children from dangerous predators through the AMBER Alert legislation. We will soon vote on a conference report to improve child abuse prevention and treatment, called CAPTA; and the House recently passed my child medication safety legislation, H.R. 1170.

We have passed sensible, economic-growth legislation that increased the child tax credit from \$600 to \$1,000. Many have expressed concern about the fact that credit was not extended to those who pay no taxes.

I believe that Congress has done more to assist poor children and their parents with real jobs and real opportunities. Specifically, the jobs and growth bill recently signed into law re-

moves major barriers to capital formation for individuals and small businesses, allowing these businesses to provide more jobs, more paychecks, and more economic benefits that will enrich the lives of all of the Nation's poorest children.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation, and I believe the 108th Congress has delivered on behalf of America's children.

HIGH-INCOME TAX BENEFICIARIES

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, again two stories in the paper say it all. The Washington Post says three successive tax cuts pushed by President Bush will leave middle-income taxpayers paying a greater share of all Federal taxes by the end of the decade, according to new analyses of the Bush administration's tax policies.

As critics of the tax cuts in 2001, 2002, and 2003 have noted, the very wealthiest Americans, those earning \$337,000 or more per year, will be the greatest beneficiaries of the changes in the Nation's tax laws.

□ 1030

Also, we read in the New York Times today that the House will not consider a Democratic measure to provide an increased tax credit to 6.5 million low-income families who did not receive it in the new tax law. So the policies of the Republican majority here are becoming increasingly clear. They are fiscally irresponsible, the borrow-and-spend Republican majority.

Let us see what they have done with the tax cuts: Helped the rich, hurt the middle class and poor, and stuck our children and grandchildren with the bill. Deficits as far as the eye can see. "Let's enjoy the tax cuts now because our children and our grandchildren will be paying the bill." This is morally unconscionable and should be changed.

MIDDLE EAST SUMMIT

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of history and opportunity for the world and for the war-torn region known as the Middle East. I pray for the peace of Jerusalem and was yesterday greatly encouraged when five Arab leaders pledged to actively fight what they called the culture of extremism and violence in the region. I am also encouraged by Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas who has called for an end to violence against Israeli citizens. But I was astounded this morning when the network television shows were all stressing what our President today in Jordan must demand of our ally, Israel.

The truth is, as we welcome this day of history and opportunity, we must be